

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 859

By Brooks (Shelby)

A RESOLUTION to commend Evangelist Nettie B. Rogers for her honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as founder of Memphis Inter-Denominational Fellowship, Incorporated.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are proud to recognize those spiritual leaders whose devout service to God and their respective communities has instilled in others the faith to follow His spiritual path; and

WHEREAS, Evangelist Nettie B. Rogers, founder of Memphis Inter-Denominational Fellowship, Inc., is one such distinguished citizen who radiates God's love and evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; through her great capacity for love, dedication of spirit, and faith in God, she has enriched the lives of the people in her community for many years; and

WHEREAS, because of her dedication to the Lord's work and her desire to better her community, in 1968 Evangelist Rogers founded and chartered the Memphis Inter-Denominational Fellowship, Inc., establishing as its purpose the building of spiritual and moral fiber, promoting Christian and public education, eliminating crime and juvenile delinquency, and reducing illiteracy through the signature program, "Back to Church School Crusade"; and

WHEREAS, for more than 40 years, Evangelist Rogers and Memphis Inter-Denominational Fellowship, Inc. have provided exemplary and beneficial programs and community ventures including: Operation Bread Basket to provide breads and pastries to nursing homes and churches; a partnership with the Al Chymia Shrine to provide families with free tickets to the Shrine Circus; and Christmas baskets to hundreds of families in need; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Evangelist Nettie B. Rogers has received numerous commendations and honors over the years from a vast multitude of

prestigious religious and civic organizations, including the International Ministries Forum, Interdenominational Alliance, National Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., the Memphis City Council, the National Association of the Negro Business and Professional Women's Club, the National Civil Rights Museum, and the April 4th Foundation, to name just a few; and

WHEREAS, Evangelist Rogers's outstanding career as a compassionate spiritual and civic leader is directly attributable to her reliance on God's grace, her dedication to the time-honored values of hard work and common sense, and her uncommon ability to relate to people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, it is not often that a woman of Evangelist Nettie B. Rogers's stature walks among us, and it is important that we honor her for her strong character and selfless good works, and also recognize her life of purpose and commitment to God; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Evangelist Nettie B. Rogers, founder of the Memphis Inter-Denominational Fellowship, Inc., for her many valuable contributions and services over the years to the good people of Memphis, Shelby County, and the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.